

AMENDMENT

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application. Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A method of treating incontinence ~~or vesicoureteral reflux~~ comprising administering an endoprosthesis, which includes a hydrogel, to a mammal, said hydrogel comprising about 0.5% to 25% by weight, based on the total weight of the hydrogel, of a polymer prepared by a method comprising combining acrylamide and a cross-linking agent; ~~and wherein said hydrogel includes less than 50 ppm monomeric units, wherein said hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 90 Pas~~ and has an elasticity modulus of about 1 to 200 Pa.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the polymer is prepared by combining acrylamide and methylene-bis-acrylamide in a molar ratio of 150:1 to 1000:1.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 15% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 1% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 40 Pas.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 80% by weight water or aqueous solution.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the administering comprises injecting the hydrogel.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the injecting of the hydrogel comprises injections which include:

injections at positions 10, 2, and 6 o'clock of the cross-sectional axis of the urethra for the treatment of urinary incontinence[[:]] or

injections at positions 10, 2, and 6 o'clock of the cross-sectional axis of the colon or rectum for the treatment of anal incontinence;~~or~~

~~injections at positions 10, 2, and 6 o'clock of the cross-sectional axis of the ureter for the treatment of vesicoureteral reflux.~~

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the inclusion of cells.

18-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 10% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

30. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 7.5% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

31. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 5% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

32. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 3.5% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

33. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 1.5% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

34. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 1.6% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

35. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 30 Pas.

36. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 20 Pas.

37. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the cells comprise stem cells.

38. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein the cells allow for cellular engraftment to the surrounding tissue in the ~~ureter~~, urethra or *analis canalis*.

39-46. (Canceled)

47. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 50 Pas.

48. (Canceled)

49. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein incontinence is selected from the group consisting of urinary and anal incontinence.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the cross-linking agent is methylene-bis-acrylamide.

52. (Previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the polymer is substantially comprised of cross-linked polyacrylamide.

53. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the polymer consists essentially of a polymer prepared by polymerizing acrylamide in the presence of a cross-linking agent.

54. (Currently amended) A method of treating incontinence ~~or vesicoureteral reflux~~ comprising directly injecting a hydrogel into at least one of the conduits selected from the group consisting of the urethra, ~~ureter~~, rectum, and colon, wherein the hydrogel comprises water or aqueous solution and about 0.5 to 25% by weight polymer having fewer than 50 ppm monomer units and has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 90 Pas and an elasticity modulus of about 1 to 200 Pa, the polymer prepared by combining acrylamide and a cross-linking agent.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the aqueous solution is a saline solution and the cross-linking agent is methylene-bis-acrylamide.

56. (Canceled)

57. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the aqueous solution is a saline solution.

58-61. (Canceled)

62. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 75% by weight water or aqueous solution.

63. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the water is pyrogen free water.
64. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 54, wherein the water is pyrogen free water.
65. (new) The method according to claim 54, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 5% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.
66. (new) The method according to claim 54, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 3.5% by weight of the polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.
67. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has an elasticity modulus of about 5 to 150 Pa.
68. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has an elasticity modulus of about 10 to 100 Pa.
69. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the elasticity modulus and the complex viscosity are related by a factor of 5.8 to 6.4.
70. (new) The method according to claim 49, wherein the incontinence is urinary incontinence and the endoprosthesis is administered to a urethra or neck of a bladder.